ABSTRACT

[0087] A method and system for quantifying the performance of a component adapted to

5   function as a node in a communications network where the component is represented by a

virtual distance (x) according to the following formula:

$$x = \frac{S_{i+1} - S_i}{IS}$$

10   where the virtual distance x is a representation of a metric that relates to intrinsic properties of

the component.

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